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62. (amended) An apparatus for impregnating a continuous fiber material, comprising a heater for heating a fibrous reinforcing material to a first temperature, a means for applying a tension to the fibrous reinforcing material, and a container containing a molten resin composition, said container having an inlet and an outlet for the heated fibrous reinforcing material in which the heated reinforcing material is contacted with the molten resin composition; wherein the container includes therein a shearing mechanism for the fibrous reinforcing material.

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70. (twice amended) An apparatus according to claim 62, further including molding equipment for forming impregnated fibrous reinforcing material exiting the container into an article of a desired shape.

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72. (amended) An apparatus for preparing a reinforced matrix resin composition, comprising a heater for heating a fibrous reinforcing material, a molten resin composition that is located so as to first contact the heated fibrous reinforcing material while the heated fibrous reinforcing material is at a first temperature, and a compressing unit for pressing the heated fibrous reinforcing material together with the resin composition; wherein the first temperature is above the temperature of the resin composition.

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74. (amended) An apparatus according to claim 72, wherein said first temperature is from about 75°F to about 500°F above the temperature of the resin composition.

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78. (amended) An apparatus for preparing a reinforced matrix resin composition, comprising a heater for heating a fibrous reinforcing material to a first temperature and a container of a liquid, crystallizable resin composition having an inlet and an outlet for the heated fibrous reinforcing material; wherein the heater is at a temperature and location so that the first temperature, as measured at the point where the heated fibrous reinforcing material is brought into contact with the resin